

In the Claims:

Kindly add Claim 32 as follows:

~~31~~ 32. An apparatus for evaluating information about a process related to automatically processing at least one negotiation between first and second users who are communicating over a network to each other negotiation terms that include a plurality of variables, comprising:

inv *cr* negotiations software *cr* configured to process such a negotiation by:

B4 responding to and recognizing the first and second users as

negotiators,

designating one of the users as a deciding entity;

receiving a negotiation term from one of the users;

analyzing the negotiation term to understand its purpose;

formatting the negotiation term according to the understood purpose;

placing the formatted negotiation term into a context supplied by at

least one of the users;

indicating a detected change in a negotiation term to at least one of the

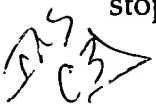

users;


sending the negotiation term to one of the users;


storing the negotiation term;


repeating the above processing until a signal is received from the deciding entity to


stop negotiations; and


 a process mining program configured to evaluate a process related to such a negotiation. 


 Kindly add Claim 33 as follows:


 33. The apparatus of Claim ~~32~~³¹, wherein the process mining program further comprises an active template for specifying variables to be evaluated.


 Kindly add Claim 34 as follows:

 34. The apparatus of Claim ~~33~~³², wherein the active template further comprises an alert mechanism for initiating evaluation.

 Kindly add Claim 35 as follows:

 35. The apparatus of Claim ~~34~~³², wherein the active template further comprises a contract authority for assigning a unique identifier to a negotiation.

 Kindly add Claim 36 as follows:

 36. The apparatus of Claim ~~35~~³⁴, wherein the active template further comprises predefined fields for activating a computer program to analyze the specified variables.

Kindly add Claim 37 as follows:

~~36~~³⁷ 37. The apparatus of Claim ~~36~~³², wherein the specified variables include data collected during the negotiation.

Kindly add Claim 38 as follows:

~~37~~³⁸ 38. The apparatus of Claim ~~36~~³², wherein the specified variables include trackable events occurring as a result of the negotiation.

Kindly add Claim 39 as follows:

~~38~~³⁹ 39. The apparatus of Claim ~~36~~³², wherein the specified variables include trackable activities occurring as a result of the negotiation.

Kindly add Claim 40 as follows:

~~39~~⁴⁰ 40. The apparatus of Claim ~~36~~³⁵, wherein the computer program further comprises a dynamic contract manager for converting the results of an analysis into an active template for governing subsequent negotiations.

Kindly add Claim 41 as follows:

~~40~~⁴¹ 41. The apparatus of Claim ~~40~~³⁹, wherein the dynamic contract manager further comprises a procedure for recommending modifications to an existing agreement as a result of an analysis performed.

Kindly add Claim 42 as follows:

41/ 42. The apparatus of Claim ~~40~~³⁹, wherein the dynamic contract manager stores the results of an analysis associated with a unique identifier in the storage area.

Kindly add Claim 43 as follows:

42/ 43. The apparatus of Claim ~~39~~³², wherein the specified variables are associated with a single user.

Kindly add Claim 44 as follows:

43/ 44. The apparatus of Claim ~~38~~³², wherein the specified variables are associated with at least two users.

Kindly add Claim 45 as follows:

44/ 45. The apparatus of Claim ~~44~~⁴³, wherein the users agree to provide access to information for purposes of an evaluation.

Kindly add Claim 46 as follows:

45/ 46. The apparatus of Claim ~~42~~⁴¹, wherein the dynamic contract manager further comprises a security function for validating that the results stored have appropriate access controls and privilege safeguards.

[Kindly add Claim 47 as follows:]

~~46/~~ 47. A method for evaluating information about a process related to automatically processing at least one negotiation between first and second users who are communicating to each other negotiation terms that include a plurality of variables, comprising the steps of:

responding to and recognizing the first and second users as negotiators,

designating one of the users as a deciding entity;

receiving a negotiation term from one of the users;

analyzing the negotiation term to understand its purpose;

formatting the negotiation term according to the understood purpose;

placing the formatted negotiation term into a context supplied by at least one of the users;

indicating a detected change in a negotiation term to at least one of the users;

sending the negotiation term to one of the users;

storing the negotiation term;

repeating the above processing until a signal is received from the deciding entity to stop negotiations; and

evaluating a process related to such a negotiation by using a process mining

program.

[Kindly add Claim 48 as follows:]

48. The method of Claim ~~47~~⁴⁶, wherein the step of evaluating a process further comprises the step of specifying variables to be evaluated using an active template.

[Kindly add Claim 49 as follows:]

49. The method of Claim ~~48~~⁴⁷, wherein the step of using an active template further comprises the step of initiating an evaluation using an alert mechanism.

B4 [Kindly add Claim 50 as follows:]

50. The method of Claim ~~49~~⁴⁷, wherein the step of using an active template further comprises the step of assigning a unique identifier to a negotiation.

[Kindly add Claim 51 as follows:]

51. The method of Claim ~~50~~⁴⁹, wherein the step of using an active template further comprises the step of activating a computer program to analyze the specified variables.

[Kindly add Claim 52 as follows:]

52. The method of Claim ~~51~~⁴⁷, wherein the step of using an active template further

comprises the step of including data collected during the negotiation.

Kindly add Claim 53 as follows:

~~52~~⁴⁷ 53. The method of Claim ~~48~~⁴⁷, wherein the step of using an active template further comprises the step of including trackable events occurring as a result of the negotiation.

Kindly add Claim 54 as follows:

~~53~~⁴⁷ 54. The method of Claim ~~48~~⁴⁷, wherein the step of using an active template further comprises the step of including trackable activities occurring as a result of the negotiation.

Kindly add Claim 55 as follows:

~~54~~⁵⁰ 55. The method of Claim ~~51~~⁵⁰, wherein activating a computer program further comprises the step of converting the results of an analysis into an active template for governing subsequent negotiations.

Kindly add Claim 56 as follows:

~~55~~⁵⁴ 56. The method of Claim ~~55~~⁵⁴, wherein the step of converting the results of an analysis further comprises the step of recommending modifications to an existing agreement as a result of an analysis performed.

Kindly add Claim 57 as follows:

56/ 57. The method of Claim 55, wherein the step of converting the results of an analysis further comprises the step of storing the results of an analysis associated with a unique identifier in the storage area.

Kindly add Claim 58 as follows:

57/ 58. The method of Claim 48, wherein the step of specifying variables further comprises the step of associating them with a single user.

BY Kindly add Claim 59 as follows:

58/ 59. The method of Claim 48, wherein the step of specifying variables further comprises the step of associating them with at least two users.

Kindly add Claim 60 as follows:

59/ 60. The method of Claim 59, wherein the step of associating them with at least two users further comprises obtaining the users' agreement to accessing information for purposes of an evaluation.

Kindly add Claim 61 as follows:

60/ 61. The method of Claim 57, wherein the step of converting the results of an

B4 analysis further comprises the step of validating that the results stored have appropriate access controls and privilege safeguards.
